3: Thompson E-5 (1933-1934) 1940 OQ6 Lau OQ6
Kambara

744 The expansion of the European medical staff in Fiji began
874 in the late nineties, and today the Fiji medical service consists
759 of sixteen medical officers under the control of the director of medical service. Their work in native health and sanitation control is assisted and supplemented in the country districts by sanitary inspectors, nurses, and by native medical practitioners trained at the central medical school in Suva. The former Fiji medical school founded in 1883 was replaced in 1928 by the central medical school which receives native medical students from Fiji as well as various island groups in the South Pacific. After successfully completing a four-year course[66] the students receive diplomas as native medical practitioners. These modern native doctors are attached to provincial hospitals and receiving stations. They have a high social prestige among the natives, and by interpreting modern hygiene and medical practices to their own people they bridge the wide gap between native custom and western science.

742 Medical work in Fiji has been greatly aided by the work of the Rockefeller Foundation, which has contributed funds both for the erection of hospitals and a training school and for experimental research in the control of infectious diseases.

744 Administrative health and medical work among the natives may be divided into three main phases: the control of infectious diseases, sanitation and housing, and child welfare.

The natives have developed some immunity against measles, whooping cough, and chicken pox which, however, still raise the infant mortality rate. Since 1911, lepers have been segre-
[743] gated on the island of Makongai which receives patients also from New Zealand, Samoa, Tonga, and the Cook, Gilbert and Ellice islands. A systematic campaign against yaws, especially during 1929-31, and hookworm, especially since 1922, control of epidemic dysentery and the treatment of ankylostomiasis have had marked results. Today, of infectious

[66] The curriculum includes chemistry, physics, biology, anatomy, physiology, medicine, surgery, midwifery, and child care.

13 24. THITHIA (pronounced thē-thē-á) is a moderately large, nearly circular island of volcanic and limestone formation, 17 miles N.W. of Naiau and about the same distance S.S.W. of Mango. The island is about 4 miles in diameter, with the interior undulating grassland, rising in several peaks to a height of over 500 feet. Delana Bo, east of the center of the island, is said to be the highest point, but two peaks on the west marginal ridge are as high or higher. As usual, the ridges of upraised coral limestone are marginal, but here they are somewhat reduced in extent, there being also volcanic ridges [312] on the south, west and north sides. A moderately large stream, flowing to the N.E., drains the central portion, and there are numerous smaller streams. Good water is plentiful.

The island is surrounded by a fringing reef, 300 to 800 yards wide. There is a good anchorage off the village of Tarukua, at the N.W. point, with the prevailing S.E. to E. winds. Here landing is good at any time of the tide. There is also a temporary anchorage off Tambuta Plantation, a mile to the south. There is a small break in the reef opposite 60 yards wide the village of Lomati, but as there is very little protection from the prevailing wind, vessels seldom anchor here.

Snakes are ~~also~~ said to be abundant. There are numerous lizards and land crabs. Besides the usual land birds, introduced mynas and "magpies" are abundant.

There are several caves in the N.E. cliffs, some containing bats, [135] and one said to have a deposit of low grade phosphate.

361 Thithia is one of the most advanced and prosperous islands of Lau. [161] There are five villages with a combined population of over 400. [622] The residence of the Buli[1] is at Tarukua, at the N.W. end, which has 75 [161] natives and a small Chinese store. The district hospital, with a [366] native practitioner in charge, is located here. Mambula', at the S.W. 1177 [143] [759]

1 [Buli or chief -- analyst]

[p.60]